

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Drew Nannis (202) 225-5065

STARK HIRES FORMER PhRMA STAFFER AS COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON, DC -- Today, US Rep. Pete Stark (D-Fremont) announced that he has hired Drew Nannis as his new communications director. Nannis replaces Lindsey Capps who is departing Capitol Hill to complete his graduate studies at Georgetown University.

Nannis comes to Stark's office having worked for the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers Association of America (PhRMA), of which Stark has been a vocal critic.

"It is refreshing to see someone emerge from the veil of money and access of the drug industry to help fight on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries and patients," Stark said. "I welcome Drew on board knowing that anyone who trades high salaries, steak dinners and cushy travel for the hard work of fighting to protect Medicare will be an excellent addition to our team."

Nannis most recently served as Communications Director for Congressman Marion Berry, a Democrat from Arkansas and a member of the 2003 Medicare Conference Committee. Nannis also served on the John Kerry for President campaign in the Fall of 2004.

"I'm honored to be working for a long-time leader in the health care field such as Congressman Stark," Nannis said. "I have long admired his record on civil liberties, the war in Iraq, health care and the ongoing Social Security debate."